

BOROUGH OF ABERYSTWYTH

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT 1970

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

W. J. St. E.-G. Rhys, M.A., M.B., B.S., B.Sc., M.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND
HOUSING OFFICER:

D. M. Lewis, M.R.S.H., D.R.I.PH.&H.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANT:

W. D. Jones

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ABERYSTWYTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Mayor of Aberystwyth

Alderman H. I. Owen

Committees dealing with Health Matters

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chairman</u>	<u>Members</u>
Health and Housing Committee	Councillor D. L. Evans	All Members of the Council
Housing Sub-Committee	Councillor D. L. Evans	Thirteen Members
Public Works Committee	Councillor G. R. Gornall	All Members of the Council

To The Mayor, Aldermen and Members of
Aberystwyth Borough Council

PREFACE

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of the Public Health Department for the year 1970.

The number of live births registered during 1970 was ninety-two, representing a decrease of twenty-six from the figure for the previous year. There were two registered stillbirths and two babies died during the first year of life. No woman died as a result of pregnancy, childbirth or abortion.

The number of registered deaths was one hundred and forty-nine, a decrease of eleven from the figure for the previous year. Fifty people died of heart disease, nineteen of 'stroke' and twenty-two of cancer.

There was a moderate epidemic of measles during this year, perhaps corresponding with the temporary withdrawal of Measles Vaccine. Four new cases of tuberculosis were notified but no person died of the disease. In order to trace all contacts of a notified case of tuberculosis, the Department works in conjunction with the local chest physician.

In my Annual Report last year, I referred to the risks of tobacco smoking. This year we are aware of the increasing practice among young people of another sort of smoking - the smoking of cannabis. This is part of a very disturbing development - the increase in Drug Abuse in general. Illicit drug taking on a large scale is a relatively new phenomenon in this country, and until the last decade it was confined to the London area; the drug-takers could then be numbered in scores, and most of them were unfortunate patients who had suffered from diseases which had necessitated the prescription of these drugs.

Then the situation changed. People began to take other kinds of drugs - some of those drugs had only recently been synthesized - and a new class of young person was introduced to the pernicious habit. The number of young addicts to the hard drugs (heroin, morphine and cocaine) escalated at an alarming rate, and new legislation was introduced to control the drugs and to deal with the offenders. Special treatment centres were established in 1968 to treat registered addicts, and the prescribing of these hard drugs was restricted to certain doctors only.

It has become apparent, however, that as soon as one drug is controlled, another takes its place. The taking of amphetamines ("pep pills") by mouth was followed by the injection of amphetamines into the vein; the taking of barbiturates by mouth is even now being followed by their injection, and the results are horrifying and the damage permanent. Cannabis smoking is becoming a not uncommon habit, and Lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD) is now widely available. Indeed LSD is easily administered to anybody without his knowledge, because it is colourless, odourless and tasteless and it is potent in minute dosage - one ounce will yield 300,000 adult doses. Apart from the possible immediate disastrous effects, the taking of only one dose of LSD may cause recurring mental illness, requiring admission to a mental hospital.

We must be on our guard at this time of accelerating social change to protect our adolescent population against these hazards. We must be aware of the risks of drug-taking, and of the fact that there is a hierarchy of danger, which is by no means static, due to new uses of known drugs, and the appearance of new drugs upon the illicit market. These new drugs may have to be controlled from time to time, for as the Expert Committee on Drug Dependence of the World Health Organization states "It must be emphasized that risk to public health is the

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prime determining factor in deciding for or against control of a particular type of drug".

Society must not tolerate those who introduce adolescents into this so called "drug scene" and the penalties for "drug pushers" and "drug pedlars" must be severe. Drug taking is largely a communal habit, and the scene of most of the despicable drug trade is the coffee bar, public house, dance hall, discotheque and club. One club manager was alleged to have told the police "a beat club without drugs is like a pub without beer - it just does not happen".

Let us be intelligently aware of this problem which exists here and now, so that we can attempt to prevent its escalation in our own district.

A detailed account of the work of the Public Health Department, including a section prepared by the Public Health Inspector, will be found in the following pages.

At Faer, Henaduriaid ac Aelodau o
Gyngor Bwrdeisdref Aberystwyth

RHAGAIR

Pleser imi yw cyflwyno Adroddiad Blynnyddol yr Adran Iechyd Cyhoeddus am y flwyddyn 1970.

Cafodd naw-deg-dau a anwyd yn fyw eu cofrestru yn ystod 1970, chwech-ar-hugain yn llai na'r nifer an y flwyddyn cynt. Cofrestrwyd dau farw-anedig a bu farw ddau faban yn ystod y flwyddyn gyntaf o fywyd. Ni bu farw un fenyw an ei bod yn feich-iog, nac wrth eni plentyn neu wrth erthylu.

Cofrestrwyd cant pedwar-deg-naw o farwolaethau, un-ar-ddeg yn llai na'r nifer an y flwyddyn cynt. Bu farw pum-deg o glefyd y galon, dau-ar-hugain o'r cancr a un-deg-naw o'r strôc.

Cafwyd haint cymedrol o'r frech goch yn ystod y flwyddyn. Efallai fod cysylltiad rhwng hyn a'r penderfyniad a wnaed i ddileu dros dro rhoi imiwniad rhag y frech goch. Nodwyd pedwar digwyddiad newydd o'r ddarfodedigaeth yn ystod y flwyddyn ond ni bu farw un person o'r ciefyd hwn. Er mwyn dod o hyd i bob person a fu mewn cyffyrddiad a'r achos gwybyddus o'r darfodedigaeth y mae'r Adran yn cydweithredu a'r arbenigwr lleol yn y maes hwn.

Yn fy Adroddiad Blynnyddol y llynedd, cyfeiriais at beryglon ysmygu tybaco. Eleni 'rydyn yn ymwybodol o'r arfer cynnyddol ymhliith pobl ifanc o ysmygu o fath arall - ysmygu cannabis. Y mae hyn yn rhan o ddatblygiad sy'n veri pryder - y cynnydd cyffredinol mewn camddefnyddio cyffuriau. Ffenomen gymharol newydd yn y wlad hon yw cynryd cyffuriau yn anghyfreithlon ar raddfa eang, tan y deng mlynedd diwethaf fe'i cyfyngid i gylch Llundain; gellid cyfrif y rhai oedd yn cynryd y cyffuriau hyn mewn ugeiniau a'r mwyafrif ohonynt yn bobl anffodus a fu'n dioddef

odd i wrth glefydau oedd yn galw an y cyffuriau hyn.

Yna daeth newid yn y sefyllfa. Dechreuwyd cymryd mathau eraill o gyffuriau - rhai ohonynt newydd eu cynhyrchu - fe gafodd dosbarth newydd o bobl ifanc ei gyflwyno i'r arfer peryglus. Bu cynnydd aruthrol yn nifer yr ifanc sy'n gaeth i'r cyffuriau caled (heroin, morphia a cocaine) a chaed deddfwriaeth newydd i reoli'r cyffuriau ac i ddelio a'r troseddwyr. Yn 1968 sefydlwyd canolfannau arbennig i roi triniaeth i'r addicts cofrestredig a dim ond rhai doctoriaid sydd a'r hawl i rhagnodi'r cyffuriau caled hyn i addicts.

Dae th yn amlwg, pan geir trefn ar un cyffur daw un arall i gynryd ei le. Dilynnwyd yr arfer o gynryd amphetamines ("pep pills") drwy'r ceg gan yr arfer o chwystrellu amphetamines i'r wythien, a mae'r un peth yn digwydd yn awr gyda'r barbiturates.

Y mae'r canlyniadau'n erchyll a'r niwed yn barhaol. Nid angyffredin yw'r arfer o ysgygu cannabis ac y mae Lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD) o fewn cyrraedd dros gylch eang. Gellir cymryd LSD yn ddiarwybod an ei fod yn ddi-liw, yn ddi- arogl ac heb flas. Y mae dôs fechan iawn yn effeithiol dros ben - un owns yn ddigon i roi dôs i 300,000 o oedolion. Ar wahan i'r effeithiau difrifol a all ddigwydd ar unwaith, gall un dôs o LSD achosi afiechyd meddwl sy'n ad-ddigwydd ac yn galw an driniaeth newn ysbyty'r meddwl.

Rhaid i ni gynryd gofal ar adeg o newid cyndeithasol cynnyddol i anffurfyn ein poblogaeth adolescent yn erbyn y peryglon hyn. Y mae'n rhaid i ni sylweddoli fod y "drug scene" yn newid yn gyflym o fis i fis, on fod defnydd newydd yn cael ei wneud o gyffuriau cyfarwydd, a chyffuriau newydd yn ymddangos ar y farchnad anghyfreithlon o hyd. Dywed y Pwyllgor Arbenigol ar Gyffuriau sy'n gweithredu dan newdd Cyfundrefn Iechyd y Byd "Rhaid pwysleisio mai'r perygl i lechyd y

Cyhoedd yw'r ffactor ailycaf wrth benderfynnu o blaid neu yn erbyn rheoli math arbennig o gyffur".

Rhaid i gymdeithas droi yn erbyn y rhai sy'n hudo pobl ifanc i afael y demtasiwn a rhaid i gosp y "pedlars" mewn cyffuriau fod yn un dron. Arfer gymdeithasol yw cynryd cyffuriau. Gan aulaf, mewn bar coffi, ty tafarn, neuadd ddawnsio, discotec a chlwb y ceir y fasnach lygredig. Ewyd dir i un rheolwr clwb ddatgan i'r heddlu "y mae "beat club" heb gyffuriau fel tafarn heb gwrv".

Byddwn yn effro i'r broblem sy'n bedoli yma yn awr fel y gallwn geisio arbed ei datblygiad yn ein cyndogaeth ni.

Ceir hanes manwl am waith yr Adran Iechyd Cyhoeddus, yn cynnwys adran a bartowyd gan yr Archwiliwr Iechyd Cyhoeddus, yn y tudalennau sy'n dilyn.

VITAL STATISTICS

1968 1969 1970

1. LIVERBIRTHS

Total	129	118	92
Leg:	119	110	84
Illeg:	10	8	8
Rate per 1,000 population (crude)	12.3	11.3	8.8
Rate per 1,000 population (adjusted)	11.3	10.4	8.1
Rate per 1,000 population England and Wales ..	16.9	16.3	16.0
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	7.7	7.0	9

2. STILLBIRTHS

Total	1	0	2
Leg:	1	0	2
Illeg:	0	0	0
Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	7.7	0	21
Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths England and Wales	14.0	13.0	13

3. TOTAL LIVE AND STILLBIRTHS

130 118 94

4. PERI-NATAL DEATHS (Stillbirths plus early neo-natal deaths)

Total	2	0	2
Leg:	2	0	2
Illeg:	0	0	0
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	15.4	0	21

5. EARLY NEO-NATAL DEATHS (deaths under one week)

Total	1	0	0
Leg:	1	0	0
Illeg:	0	0	0
Rate per 1,000 total live births	7.7	0	0

6. NEO-NATAL DEATHS (deaths under four weeks)

Total	1	0	0
Leg:	1	0	0
Illeg:	0	0	0
Rate per 1,000 total live births	7.7	0	0

DEATHS

Total	158	160	149
Rate per 1,000 population (crude)	15.1	15.4	14.3
Rate per 1,000 population (adjusted)	12.7	12.2	11.2
Rate per 1,000 population England and Wales ..	11.9	11.9	11.7
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Area comparability factor for births	0.92	0.92	0.92
Area comparability factor for deaths	0.84	0.79	0.78

POPULATION STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	1,141
Population (Census 1961)	10,427
Population (Registrar General's Estimated Mid-Year Population 1970)	10,400

CAUSES OF DEATH

(Headings with no deaths allocated are omitted)

<u>Causes of Death</u>	<u>Number of Deaths</u>		
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity	1	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	-	3	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	2	2	4
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	4	-	4
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	2	-	2
Other Malignant Neoplasms	2	2	4
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	1	-	1
Anaemias	1	1	2
Other Diseases of Nervous System	-	2	2
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	1	-	1
Hypertensive Disease	3	2	5
Ischaemic Heart Disease	21	18	39
Other Forms of Heart Disease	6	4	10
Cerebrovascular Disease	3	16	19
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	2	8	10
Pneumonia	7	8	15
Asthma	-	1	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	2	-	2
Peptic Ulcer	-	1	1
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	1	1	2
Other Diseases of Digestive System	-	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	-	1
Congenital Anomalies	-	1	1
Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	-	2	2
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	2	3
All Other Accidents	2	7	9
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TOTAL		63	86
			149

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following is a list of the notifications of infectious disease, other than tuberculosis, received during the year:-

TU BERCULOSIS

The following table shows the sex and age distribution of the new cases notified during the year:-

AGE GROUP	RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
5 - 14	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	-	-	-
25 - 44	-	1	-	-
45 - 64	2	1	-	-
65 +	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	2	2	-	-

SECTION 47 OF THE NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948

No action was required to be taken under this Section during the year.

GENERAL PROVISION OF PREVENTIVE PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

These remain essentially the same as in previous years and are under the control of the County Council.

W. J. St. E.-G. RHYS
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

REPORT OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

To The Mayor, Chairman of the Health and Housing Committee,
Aldermen and Members of the Aberystwyth Borough Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I submit herewith my second annual report, as your Public Health Inspector and Housing Officer, for your consideration and information.

Perusal of the report will indicate the variety of work which the Public Health Department is responsible for administering.

I would like to record the willing assistance and support, at all times, of the Chairman of the Health and Housing Committee, Councillor D. L. Evans; also I appreciate the help and guidance of the Council and its Officers on many controversial issues, especially those relating to Housing.

To deal with the volume of work entailed, with such a small staff, has at times been difficult, but with their willing assistance and co-operation, I believe the standard expected of the Department has been maintained.

SUMMARY OF GENERAL STATISTICS

Number of various premises at 1 April 1971

Domestic

Houses and Flats (other than Agricultural Dwelling Houses) 3,025
Agricultural Dwelling Houses 3
Crown Dwelling Houses 5

Commercial

Shops with Private Dwelling Accommodation	..	..	..	..	..	..	105
Shops (including Banks in shopping areas) and Cafes	..	..	..	..	..	..	161
Offices (including Banks in office areas)	..	..	..	..	..	..	84
Public Houses (including Beerhouses)	..	..	..	..	..	..	23
Hotels and Boarding Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	39
Restaurants	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Holiday Camps and Caravan Fields	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Warehouses, Stores and Workshops	..	..	..	..	..	..	104
Garages (Commercial) Petrol Filling Stations and Car Parks	..	..	..	..	..	..	25
Lock-up Garages	..	..	..	..	..	..	411
Markets	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Advertising Stations and Signs	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Factories, Mills and premises of a similar character	..	..	..	..	..	..	12

Entertainment and Recreational

Public Utility

Educational and Cultural

Miscellaneous

Crown occupation	24
Hospitals, Clinics	4
Cemeteries	3
Town Halls and Municipal Offices	4
Properties not classified	63

GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Enforcement

Complaints received	154
Complaints not justified	7
Matters referred to other Departments	51
Preliminary Notices served	15
Informal Notices complied	11
Number of Closing Orders made on part of a building	1
Number of houses or part which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation	1
Number of formal notices served requiring the execution of works under Public Health Acts	3
Number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices under Public Health Acts	1
Number of houses inspected (Public Health Act and Housing Act) ..	32
Number of houses re-inspected (Public Health Act and Housing Act) ..	71

Inspections

Food Premises

Milk Regulations, Dairies, Milkshops and Purveyors	26
Ice Cream premises and vehicles (inspection and sampling)	69
Restaurant and food preparing premises	56
Butchers	18
Bakehouses	12
Greengrocers and Fishmongers	9
Railway Depot re. food	1
Food vehicles	3
Food inspection visits	164

Food Hygiene Regulations 1970

Premises inspected and re-inspected	102
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Pests Act 1949

Premises surveyed, inspected and re-inspected	701
Premises treated and re-treated	181
Block control schemes carried out	9

Other Classifications (continued)

WORK EXECUTED

Premises

Drainage

Water Closets

W.C.'s reconstructed or repaired ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Pans provided or repaired..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Miscellaneous repairs..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26

Services

Water pipes renewed or repaired ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Hot water systems provided, renewed or repaired ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Taps repaired or renewed ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8

WATER SUPPLY

Quality

The water supply is obtained from the Cardiganshire Water Board, and the quality throughout the year was satisfactory.

Quantity

There was no water shortage during the summer months.

Samples

Sample results were as follows:-

Number of samples taken	194
'Satisfactory'	189
'Unsatisfactory'	5

The unsatisfactory samples were re-taken immediately and proved to be satisfactory on re-sampling.

Plumbo-solvency

No adverse reports during the year.

Contamination

There has been no evidence of contamination throughout the year.

Chemical Analysis

A sample for chemical analysis was submitted to the Public Analyst, Carmarthen who reported as follows:-

ph value	7.4
Colour (Hazen Units)	Nil
<u>Parts per Million</u>	
Free and saline ammonia	Nil
Albuminoid ammonia	Nil
Nitrite nitrogen	Nil
Nitrate nitrogen	Nil
Oxygen consumed 27°C from N/80 permanaganate during 4 hours	0.05
Chlorides as Cl	11.0
Calculated as common salt	18.2
Total solids in solution	40
Lime as CaO	10
Total alkalinity as CaCO ₃	16.0
Total hardness as CaCO ₃	18.0
Appearance	Bright and Clear

Metals

Copper (Cu)	Absent
Lead (Pb)	Absent
Iron (Fe)	0.08

Observations Al

A water having a p^H value of 7.4 is regarded as neutral in reaction. The sample contained 18 p.p.m. calcium carbonate and would be classified therefore as being "very soft". Originally it was of the highest quality. The complete absence of nitrogenous compounds being indicative of freedom from animal or vegetable pollution. The iron present amounted to no more than 0.08 p.p.m. a concentration much below the acceptable figure of 0.3 parts in public supplies.

This water was of good quality for drinking and domestic purposes.

Supply to dwellings

	<u>Dwellings</u>	<u>Persons</u>
Mains supply direct to dwellings	3,700	10,400

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS

There are thirty-six registered distributors as follows:-

Milk Shops	13
Milk Roundsmen only	23

The bulk of milk supply in the Borough, which is pasteurised is obtained from one wholesale dairy situated outside the Borough and is distributed by retailer roundsmen. A small quantity is untreated farm bottled milk.

Brucella Abortus Samples from non-pasteurised milk

(i) Number of samples of raw milk examined	46
(ii) Number of positive samples found	Nil
(iii) Action taken in respect of positive samples ...	Nil

During the year notification was received from the Medical Officer of Health that a family living within the Borough, following an illness, had submitted blood samples which indicated that they may be suffering from Brucellosis. Investigations indicated that the milk supply was obtained from a local farm selling unpasteurised milk. Individual samples were obtained at the farm during milking, the thirty-eight samples taken were submitted for examination to the Public Health Laboratory. All showed negative results to the ring test and also to the culture.

Enquiries were made regarding this herd with the Veterinary Surgeon involved, records indicated that there was no history of brucella abortus in this herd. Further investigation was made and it appeared that the family had been abroad several times for holidays and had, on occasions, drank goats milk, this could possibly have been the cause of the brucellosis infection.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960

Preliminary Notices served to remedy conditions	2
Verbal warning to remedy conditions	6
Preliminary notices complied	2
Number of premises	145
Number of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 16	145
Number of premises to which Regulation 19 applies	145
Number of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 19	143
Number of exemptions granted	2

The following are the trades carried on at the various premises:-

Cafes ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24
Canteens ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Licensed Premises ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	32
Market Stalls ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Kiosks ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Grocers ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	28
Greengrocers ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Butchers ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Chorists ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Confectionery ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
Fish and Chips ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Fishmongers ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3

Food Inspection

Food premises have been inspected and considerable quantities of food condemned, both on the premises and at the office. The quantity of food varies considerably, but it is greater during the summer months when the catering business expands to cope with the large influx of holiday visitors, recently estimated to treble the population.

Condemnations

Fresh canned and meat products ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,751 lbs.
Fish, wet ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	93 lbs.
Canned and Miscellaneous ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,526 lbs.
Total foodstuffs condemned ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,370 lbs.

Disposal of condemned foodstuffs

Tin cans are punctured and buried at the refuse tip under supervision. Other goods are destroyed by incineration, but this method of destruction is limited as the number of solid fuel boilers is decreasing and no special incinerator is available for the purpose.

Poultry Inspection

One turkey processing unit is situated within the Borough and during the year the plant was again extended to increase production.

Inspection has been on the 'spotter' principle whereby all birds which are graded in Class B by the Producer were inspected the following day where possible. Condemnation was mainly due to extensive bruising and visceral neoplasms.

Poultry Inspection (continued)

All birds are slaughtered humanely with an approved electric appliance.

ICE CREAM

There are forty-six registered distributors in the Borough, most of these selling nationally known products in pre-packed form. Five produce Ice Cream from pre-mix.

Fifty-nine samples were taken with the following results:-

Samples giving Grade 3 and 4 results are immediately re-sampled and the attention of the producers drawn to the unsatisfactory results. Where possible, advice is given on cleaning procedure.

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH

The International Sanitary Regulations (World Health Reg: No.2) to which Great Britain is a signatory power, require the certification of international vaccination and inoculation documents for persons living within the Borough and proceeding to overseas destinations. Four hundred and forty-eight certificates were authenticated in the prescribed manner for this purpose.

Stocks of cholera and smallpox certificates are maintained in the Department and can be authenticated at any time in an emergency.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

There are sixty-one factories registered in the Borough, fifty-nine are power operated and two non-power. Responsibility for the supervision of power operated factories is vested in the Ministry of Labour and National Service, except for the provision of sanitary accommodation. In the non-power factories the Local Authority is responsible for matters concerned with cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation, drainage of floors and sanitation. The Factory Inspector notified eleven changes of occupation during the year.

The Factory Inspector of the Ministry notifies the existence of building operations and works of engineering construction in order that the Council may enforce the requirements of Section 7 of the Act, relating to sanitary conveniences on those sites or places of work, and in this connection one communication was received. It should be noted that the provision of sanitary accommodation for persons employed on building or engineering work, or indeed on any project, is essential.

(see Appendix 1)

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

The tables below indicate the number of premises registered at the end of the year and the work which has been carried out:-

(a) Premises registered

Offices	104
Retail Shops	152
Wholesale/Warehouses	11
Catering Establishments	44
Fuel Storage Depots	5
 Total	 316

New registrations during 1970 - 31

(b) Persons employed

Males	722
Females	944
 Total	 1,666

(c) Inspections

Total number of visits 313

Accidents investigated in accordance with the Act and reports submitted to the appropriate Ministry 4

(d) Enforcement

(e) Contraventions remedied

Section 6 - Temperature	..	..	..	..	..	..	18
Section 7 - Ventilation	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Section 8 - Lighting	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Section 9 - Sanitary conveniences	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
Section 10 - Washing facilities	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Section 12 - Clothing accommodation	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Section 13 - Sitting facilities	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Section 16 - Stairs	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Section 24 - First Aid	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
Other matters	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
							106

Close contact and periodic meetings are held with the Inspector of Factories and matters of common interest discussed and settled, in this rather complicated Act with many borderline responsibilities.

PESTS ACT 1949

Rats and Mice

Properties other than Sewers	Type of Property	
	Non-agricultural	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in the district	4,135	3
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises, garden sheds, etc.) inspected following notification	228	-
(b) Number infested by:-		
(i) Rats	96	-
(ii) Mice	82	-
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification (routine block inspection)	473	-
(b) Number infested by:-		
(i) Rats	1	-
(ii) Mice	2	-

The table above includes the results of nine block inspections which have covered a considerable part of the town in addition to the routine complaint and infestation work.

The sewers were treated twice during the year and each manhole was inspected pre-baited and poison laid. There are five hundred and fifty-six manholes known to exist.

Evidence of rodent infestation was found in twenty-three manholes, these were treated until the infestation was abated. This bi-annual treatment prevents any major infestation occurring in premises and lands within the Borough. It is also of considerable use to the Department as any defective or blocked drains are located and reported.

Disinfestation - Vernin

Treatment was carried out in twenty-five business and domestic premises for infestation by fleas, beetles and ants. Charges were made and advice was given where necessary.

DISINFESTATIONS

Disinfestation was carried out in one case for infectious disease.

A steam disinfecter is owned by the Council and sited in the Borough Yard.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Refuse collection, together with salvage and disposal, is under the control of the Borough Surveyor. Domestic and trade refuse are normally collected once weekly and in certain cases more frequent collections are arranged.

The refuse is tipped at Felinymor and soil from the site is used for covering. Regular inspections and treatment, if necessary, for rodent infestation, is carried out on this tip.

HOUSING

The Public Health Department is responsible for house letting. There are at present, within the Borough, eight hundred and ninety-seven Council owned dwellings, ranging from one bedroom flats for aged or single persons to large four bedroom dwellings.

The administration of these dwellings involved:-

Number of Council dwellings visited or re-visited	=	214
Number of visits regarding housing applications	=	151
Number of interviews regarding housing applications	=	237

The applications for housing received during the year which qualified for inclusion on the housing list was seventy-nine, and the total on the housing list is three hundred and seven.

Applicants requiring housing are as follows:-

ORDINARY

Children	0	1	2	3	4 or more	Total
Active	42	38	28	6	7	121
New '70	16	17	12	3	1	49
Deferred	4	11	6	-	-	21
Total	62	66	46	9	8	191

AGED OR SINGLE PERSONS

	Single	Couples	1 dep.	2 dep.	Total
Active	46	19	9	1	75
New '70	23	7	-	-	30
Deferred	2	7	1	1	11
Total	71	33	10	2	116

Grand Total = 307

The outstanding shortage of accommodation has been for elderly persons requiring one or two bedroom accommodation, particularly in the town area, as the more hilly parts of Penparcau are considered to be difficult for many elderly persons. The percentage also indicate that there is an urgent need for new development of two bedroom type accommodation. This accommodation is in part under construction, as thirty-two two bedroom dwellings are being provided on the Penybont East site.

Accommodation Provided

Private construction accounted for two dwellings and no new Council dwellings were completed.

Some twenty-five new lettings were effected from the Housing List, accommodation being provided for seventy-two persons. Transfers were arranged for

seventeen families comprising fifty-three persons, in pursuance of the maximum use of housing accommodation. In addition two mutual exchanges involving twelve persons were effected. One hundred and thirty-seven persons, in all, were thus provided with suitable housing accommodation during the year.

A scheme for modernisation of the older dwellings is in progress and it is hoped that eventually all dwellings will be provided with modern facilities.

CARAVAN AND CAMPING SITES

One holiday camp, which has been established for many years, is licensed by this Authority. The owners have been very co-operative and any requests from the Department have been immediately complied with. This site, the Aberystwyth Holiday Village, is licensed to provide accommodation for two hundred touring vans and twenty-four permanent residential vans. The annual inspection, accompanied by the Fire Prevention Officer, was carried out and all appliances met with the requirements of the Fire Service. The necessary life saving appliances are provided along the river bank and are inspected annually. No complaints were received during the year regarding the site.

This camp is now completely on the main drainage system and practically all residential vans have their own water supply.

LICENSED VICTUALLING AND CLUBS

It has been the practice in the Borough for many years to prepare a report annually for the Licensing Magistrates. This report is presented to the Licensing Justices who insist, as a condition of the licence, that any contraventions found must be remedied within a time limit specified by them. This has involved sixty-two visits being made to licensed premises during the year.

Over the years a high percentage of the local licensed premises has been modernised and provided with new blocks of sanitary conveniences. This has resulted in a very high standard being achieved in all licensed premises and clubs within the Borough. The co-operation of the local Magistrates in this work is appreciated.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Twenty-one dwellings are not connected to the public sewers.

The co-operation of the Aberaeron Rural District Council, who permit their vehicle to be used to empty cesspools in the Borough on a repayment basis, is acknowledged and it provides a very necessary facility.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT

Three persons have been registered in the Borough and are therefore authorised dealers in scrap metal in the area. Registers are inspected annually and to date no contravention has been found.

LIQUID EGG PASTEURISATION, REGULATION 63

There are no pasteurising plants for this commodity in the Borough,

SWIMMING AND PADDLING POOLS

The only swimming bath in the Borough is owned by the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, and its use is restricted to students, College staff and families, and during term time this facility is extended to cover pupils of the local Grammar School, Secondary Modern School and the College of Further Education. The standard of maintenance and cleanliness is very high.

The Council owns a paddling pool on the promenade and this is mechanically filled with sea water and emptied by gravity. The pool is very popular with children and refilled daily with sea water which is chlorinated. During the season nineteen samples were taken, and if a result indicated that extra chlorination was necessary, the water was changed immediately. Continual sampling guaranteed a safe pool for young children.

Thirty-six samples were also submitted from the children's boating pool situated on the castle grounds.

A trainer pool was this year constructed at the Plascrug Primary School. During the season weekly samples were taken for analysis.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT 1960

D. M. LEWIS

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

AND

HOUSING OFFICER

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
ABERYSTWYTH.

APPENDIX IPREScribed PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION
OF THE FACTORIES ACTS 1937 - 1961

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Section 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority	2	2	-	-
Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	59	33	1	-
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers Premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	61	35	1	-

Cases in which defects were found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found					Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)	
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred				
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)			
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-	-	
<u>Sanitary Conveniences</u> (S.7)							
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	1	-	-	
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	-	-	-	
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to out-workers)	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL	3	3	-	1	-	-	

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork - Nil

